United Nations A/54/6 (Sect. 8)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 April 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001*

Part III
International justice and law

Section 8
Legal affairs

(Programme 4 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)

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* The present document contains section 8 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

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Section 8
Legal affairs

(Programme 4 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)

Overview

8.1 The Office of Legal Affairs is responsible for the implementation of the work programme under this section. The programme is guided by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, namely the International Law Commission and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). Guidance is also given by the meeting of States parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

8.2 The activities for which the Office of Legal Affairs is responsible fall within the framework of programme 4, Legal affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1).

8.3 According to the medium-term plan, the overall objectives of programme 4 are to provide a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and other organs of the United Nations, to contribute to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law, to promote the strengthening and development as well as the effective implementation of the international legal order for the seas and oceans, to register and publish treaties and to perform the depositary functions of the Secretary-General. The Office of Legal Affairs seeks to achieve this through the provision of legal services on questions of international and national, public, private, procedural and administrative law, by providing substantive secretariat functions to a number of United Nations bodies and by contributing to the understanding, acceptance and consistent application of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related implementing agreements, through the expeditious processing and publication of treaty-related actions and treaties registered and deposited, and by providing assistance to Member States in matters related to treaty law.

8.4 The official responsible for managing this programme is the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel of the United Nations.

8.5 The budget proposal reflects a comprehensive internal review of all subprogrammes. The conclusion is that they should continue as foreseen in the medium-term plan. This conclusion is based on guidance received from the General Assembly as well as on feedback from other entities with which the Office of Legal Affairs interacts. The details are explained below.

8.6 With respect to subprogramme 1, an increase in the provision for travel is proposed. This is based on the experience of the last several years, which has entailed constant unforeseen travel to deal with matters relating to the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and other travel relating to the maintenance of peace and security.

8.7 As regards subprogramme 2, the workload of the General Legal Division has increased significantly. One additional P-3 post to manage the workload of the Division has been proposed.

8.8 With respect to subprogramme 3, no significant changes are foreseen in terms of resources, in spite of the fact that the Codification Division will act as secretariat for the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/105 of 8 December 1998. Some additional resources will be needed to expedite the preparation and publication of supplements of volumes of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

8.9 As regards subprogramme 4, there are no significant changes in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

8.10 With respect to subprogramme 5, there are no major changes. However, in light of the fact that the administration of the United Nations Office at Vienna is transferring a portion of a jointly financed account

under Library Services to the Office of Legal Affairs (International Trade Law Branch), a modest resource growth will be reflected.

8.11 As regards subprogramme 6, the efforts to address the backlog in the Treaty Section are now bearing fruit. In the budget proposal for the biennium 1998–1999, it was foreseen that the backlog would be eliminated by the end of 1999. Although this is still the target, a little more time may be needed. In addressing the backlog, it is noted that the rate of printing of volumes in the United Nations *Treaty Series* is increasing and, consequently, so are the printing costs. The normal printing rate would be approximately 50 volumes per year. However, in 1998, 131 volumes were printed and it is expected that 150 volumes will be printed in 1999. During the biennium 2000–2001, the number of volumes printed will be over 300. Once those volumes are printed, the backlog will be eliminated and the printing will be back to normal again. Consequently, a significant reduction in printing costs can be expected at that time.

8.12 With respect to the secretariat of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal, it is necessary to secure for it competent and continuous services. There are presently two staff members serving in the secretariat. This situation has become untenable, in view of the present workload. Thus, one new P-3 post is requested.

8.13 Sustained efforts will be made during the biennium to expedite, pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolutions 52/161 of 15 December 1997 and 53/106 of 8 December 1998, the preparation and publication of supplements to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*. The analytical summary of the practice of the principal organs pertaining to the 111 Articles of the Charter of the United Nations is the responsibility of 10 separate departments/offices in the Secretariat. The publication of the supplement volumes, therefore, calls for and depends on timely completion of the respective tasks by all concerned. The Office Legal Affairs itself prepares studies on some 25 Articles of the Charter, distributed according to competence among the various divisions. The Office is also charged with the task of reviewing for publication the draft studies prepared by other author departments/offices. The Office also chairs the Inter-Departmental Committee on Charter Repertory to coordinate the Repertory-related tasks.

8.14 The overall level of resources proposed for the Office of Legal Affairs for the biennium 2000–2001 amounts to $33,424,500 before recosting, reflecting a growth of $975,300 compared with the revised appropriation for 1998–1999. The overall level of resources, as indicated in table 8.3 below, reflects, *inter alia*, the establishment of two Professional posts at the P-3 level and the reclassification of one P-2 level post to P-3. It also includes growth in the amount of $5,000 for non-staff compensation, $26,300 for travel of representatives and staff to meetings, $485,200 for contractual services, $92,600 for general operating expenses, $122,800 for library books and supplies, partially offset by reductions in the amount of $97,700 for other staff costs, $32,200 for consultants and experts and $46,300 for furniture and equipment.

8.15 The estimated extrabudgetary resources amounting to $4,819,900 will be utilized for activities related to, *inter alia*, support to United Nations organizations, support to peacekeeping operations, symposia on international trade law, participation of least developed and developing countries in the work of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law.

8.16 The estimated percentage distribution of the resources of the programme in the biennium 2000–2001 would be as follows:

	Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
	(percentage)	
A. Policy-making organs	10.4	–
B. Programme of work	85.5	100.0
C. Programme support	4.1	–
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

8.17 The estimated percentage distribution of resources among subprogrammes in the biennium 2000–2001 would be as follows:

Subprogramme	*Regular budget*	*Extra-budgetary*
	(percentage)	
1. Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole	10.7	20.5
2. General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes	14.5	57.5
3. Progressive development and codification of international law	16.0	15.6
4. Law of the sea and ocean affairs	18.9	1.2
5. Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade	11.7	5.2
6. Custody, registration and publication of treaties	28.2	–
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Table 8.1 **Summary of requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
A. Policy-making							
1. International Law Commission	1 711.6	1 916.7	(4.7)	(0.2)	1 912.0	81.3	1 993.3
2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	288.7	325.0	(0.3)	–	324.7	12.7	337.4
3. United Nations Administrative Tribunal (including its secretariat)	926.8	1 077.5	166.6	15.4	1 244.1	69.9	1 314.0
Subtotal	**2 927.1**	**3 319.2**	**161.6**	**4.8**	**3 480.8**	**163.9**	**3 644.7**
B. Programme of work							
1. Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services	2 340.1	3 001.7	61.3	2.0	3 063.0	194.3	3 257.3
2. General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes	3 544.7	3 898.9	228.8	5.8	4 127.7	270.7	4 398.4
3. Progressive development and codification of international law	3 633.1	4 613.0	(34.6)	(0.7)	4 578.4	293.0	4 871.4
4. Law of the sea and ocean affairs	6 039.9	5 438.0	(51.0)	(0.9)	5 387.0	354.4	5 732.4
5. Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade	3 033.6	3 201.3	143.0	4.4	3 344.3	95.8	3 440.1
6. Custody, registration and publication of treaties	6 717.0	7 562.4	495.6	6.5	8 058.0	433.8	8 491.8
Subtotal	**25 318.4**	**27 715.3**	**843.1**	**3.0**	**28 558.4**	**1 633.0**	**30 191.4**
C. Programme support							
Departmental administration	1 026.8	1 414.7	(29.4)	(2.0)	1 385.3	78.3	1 463.6
Subtotal	**1 026.8**	**1 414.7**	**(29.4)**	**(2.0)**	**1 385.3**	**78.3**	**1 463.6**
Total	**29 272.3**	**32 449.2**	**975.3**	**3.0**	**33 424.5**	**1 875.2**	**35 299.7**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
1 886.2	2 978.4	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	2 614.8
		(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	
–	768.3	Peacekeeping operations	779.1
		(b) Substantive activities	
152.1	220.0	Trust Fund for the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Symposia	220.0
113.9	130.0	Trust Fund for the Seminar on International Law	130.0
64.3	40.0	Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law — The Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship	50.0
4.1	6.0	Trust Fund for the Gilberto Amado Memorial Lecture	6.0
77.1	700.0	Trust Fund for the Least Developed Countries in the Work of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and in the 1998 Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	420.0
–	–	Trust Fund to Assist States in the Judicial Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice	500.0
37.6	15.0	Trust Fund for the Colloquium on the Progressive Development and Codification of International Law	–
–	90.0	Trust Fund for the Developing Countries in the Work of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and in the 1998 Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	100.0
24.5	1 597.1	Trust Fund for the Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court	–
		(c) Operational projects	
–	–	Bilateral sources	–
2 359.8	**6 544.8**	**Total**	**4 819.9**
31 632.1	**38 994.0**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**40 119.6**

Table 8.2 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	22 972.6	25 185.5	420.6	1.6	25 606.1	1 517.3	27 123.4
Other staff costs	354.6	396.5	(97.7)	(24.6)	298.8	14.7	313.5
Non-staff compensation	228.6	278.0	5.0	1.7	283.0	1.4	284.4
Consultants and experts	278.6	527.9	(33.2)	(6.2)	494.7	21.2	515.9
Travel	2 252.6	2 572.9	26.3	1.0	2 599.2	126.4	2 725.6
Contractual services	1 629.3	2 337.0	485.2	20.7	2 822.2	133.9	2 956.1
General operating expenses	349.4	372.3	92.6	24.8	464.9	21.3	486.2
Hospitality	2.0	6.2	–	–	6.2	0.4	6.6
Supplies and materials	25.7	75.0	122.8	163.7	197.8	7.4	205.2
Furniture and equipment	1 031.6	346.3	(46.3)	(13.3)	300.0	14.2	314.2
Grants and contributions	147.3	351.6	–	–	351.6	17.0	368.6
Total	**29 272.3**	**32 449.2**	**975.3**	**3.0**	**33 424.5**	**1 875.2**	**35 299.7**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996–1997 expenditures	*1998–1999 estimates*	*Object of expenditure*	*2000–2001 estimates*
1 725.9	3 266.1	Posts	2 978.3
177.7	218.4	Other staff costs	198.2
35.8	135.0	Consultants and experts	420.0
206.8	2 441.4	Travel	729.0
–	–	Contractual services	200.0
7.9	162.3	General operating expenses	61.5
–	29.3	Supplies and materials	13.0

Table 8.3 **Post requirements**

Programme: Legal affairs

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
ASG	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-2	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
D-1	7	7	–	–	2	2	9	9
P-5	17	17	–	–	2	2	19	19
P-4/3	38	41	–	–	4	4	42	45
P-2/1	12	11	–	–	2	2	14	13
Total	**79**	**81**	**–**	**–**	**10**	**10**	**89**	**91**
General Service category								
Principal level	12	12	–	–	–	–	12	12
Other level	51	51	–	–	6	6	57	57
Total	**63**	**63**	**–**	**–**	**6**	**6**	**69**	**69**
Grand total	**142**	**144**	**–**	**–**	**16**	**16**	**158**	**160**

A. Policy-making organs

1. International Law Commission

Table 8.4 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Non-staff compensation	172.2	232.0	5.0	2.1	237.0	–	237.0
Travel	1 527.8	1 654.1	(9.7)	(0.5)	1 644.4	79.8	1 724.2
Contractual services	11.6	30.6	–	–	30.6	1.5	32.1
Total	**1 711.6**	**1 916.7**	**(4.7)**	**(0.2)**	**1 912.0**	**81.3**	**1 993.3**

8.18 The International Law Commission was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 174 (II) of 21 November 1947. The Commission has as its objective the promotion of the progressive development of international law and its codification. It consists of 34 members who are persons of recognized competence in international law. Unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly, the Commission meets annually for one 12-week session in Geneva and reports to the Assembly, which provides guidance to the Commission on its programme of work. The Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs provides substantive servicing for the Commission.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Non-staff compensation

8.19 The estimated requirements of $237,000 would provide for honoraria of the Chairman and 32 members of the Commission, one member being excluded from accepting the payment by national legislation, and additional amounts payable to 6 special rapporteurs, at rates set by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/218 of 17 December 1980. A growth of $5,000 is proposed for the addition of one special rapporteur.

Travel

8.20 The estimated requirements of $1,644,400, reflecting a decrease of $9,700, relate to the travel and subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission and of the Legal Counsel and six staff members from the Codification Division to service the annual 12-week session of the Commission at Geneva. The provision would cover the costs of: (a) attendance by the Chairman and 33 members at the annual session at Geneva; (b) attendance by the Chairman at the regular sessions of the Assembly during consideration of the Commission's reports; and (c) attendance by the Chairman or another representative of the Commission at the sessions of the four regional legal intergovernmental bodies (two weeks each) with which the Commission, pursuant to its statute, has established links of cooperation.

Contractual services

8.21 The provision of $30,600 would provide for the external printing costs of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*.

2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

Table 8.5 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Travel	71.5	157.8	(2.2)	(1.3)	155.6	7.6	163.2
Contractual services	217.2	167.2	1.9	1.1	169.1	5.1	174.2
Total	**288.7**	**325.0**	**(0.3)**	–	**324.7**	**12.7**	**337.4**

8.22 The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, consisting of 36 member States, is charged by the General Assembly in its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 with the development of the progressive unification and harmonization of international trade law, which corresponds to subprogramme 5 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1). The Commission carries out its tasks, with the assistance of the International Trade Law Branch, located in Vienna, as its secretariat, in one annual meeting of varying duration of up to 6 weeks in length, but usually of 3 or 4 weeks' duration, and in working group meetings on specialized topics of up to a total of 12 weeks duration per year.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Travel

8.23 The estimated requirements of $155,600, reflecting a reduction of $2,200, relate to attendance by the Chairman of the Commission at meetings of the Sixth Committee during its consideration of the report of the Commission; travel of staff from Vienna to provide substantive and technical services of one session of the Commission in New York, of six working groups outside Vienna and of two sessions of the Sixth Committee in New York; and the Legal Counsel's travel to one session of the Commission in Vienna.

Contractual services

8.24 Estimated requirements of $169,100, reflecting an increase of $1,900 on the basis of expenditure patterns, relate to the external printing costs of volumes XXX and XXXI of the *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, as well as the printing of three texts not completed by the working groups and the Commission in the biennium 1998–1999, namely, a United Nations convention on assignment in trade receivables, uniform rules on the legal aspects of electronic commerce and a legislative guide on private financing of public infrastructure projects.

3. United Nations Administrative Tribunal (including its secretariat)

Table 8.6 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	415.4	375.3	191.5	51.0	566.8	37.8	624.6
Other staff costs	–	16.2	(1.7)	(10.4)	14.5	0.8	15.3
Non-staff compensation	56.4	46.0	–	–	46.0	1.4	47.4
Consultants and experts	–	42.0	–	–	42.0	2.0	44.0
Travel	414.5	483.6	(20.4)	(4.2)	463.2	22.6	485.8
Contractual services	21.2	105.1	(3.5)	(3.3)	101.6	4.9	106.5
General operating expenses	18.3	3.0	2.5	83.3	5.5	0.2	5.7
Supplies and materials	1.0	–	–	–	–	–	–
Furniture and equipment	–	6.3	(1.8)	(28.5)	4.5	0.2	4.7
Total	**926.8**	**1 077.5**	**166.6**	**15.4**	**1 244.1**	**69.9**	**1 314.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996–1997 expenditures	*1998–1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000–2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
209.9	114.8	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	114.8
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
–	–	(b) Substantive activities	–
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
209.9	**114.8**		**114.8**
1 136.7	**1 192.3**		**1 428.8**

Table 8.7 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: United Nations Administrative Tribunal (including its secretariat)

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-4/3	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Total	**1**	**2**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1**	**2**
General Service category								
Other level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Total	**1**	**1**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**
Grand total	**2**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**3**

8.25 The United Nations Administrative Tribunal is the independent organ competent to hear and pass judgement upon applications alleging non-observance of contracts of employment of staff members of the United Nations Secretariat or of their terms of appointment as well as applications alleging non-observance of the regulations and rules of UNJSPF, arising out of decisions by the Fund. The Tribunal was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 351 A (IV) of 24 November 1949. It is composed of seven members, no two of whom may be nationals of the same State, who are appointed by the Assembly initially for three years and may be reappointed. The competence of the Tribunal extends to the secretariats of the associated programmes that are financed from voluntary contributions, such as UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNRWA. Under article 13 of the statute, the competence of the Tribunal has also been extended to IMO, ICAO and to the staff of the Registry of the International Court of Justice.

8.26 The Secretariat provides substantive, technical and administrative servicing of the sessions of the Tribunal, including legal research and analysis of precedents; preparation of draft summaries of facts and contentions of parties for judgements to be rendered by the Tribunal; analysis and research of documentation relevant to cases on appeal to the Tribunal; consultations with administrations of subsidiary organs of the United Nations, the secretariat of UNJSPF, the administrations of the specialized agencies subject to the jurisdiction of the Tribunal (ICAO and IMO) and the Registry of the International Court of Justice; and conducting the external relations of the Tribunal, including its relations with the secretariat of ILO. During the biennium, the Secretariat will also publish the recurrent publication *Judgements of the Administrative Tribunal*, volumes XIV and XV, in English and French.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.27 The estimated requirements of $566,800, reflecting a growth of $191,500, would provide for the continuation of one P-5 post and one General Service post and the proposed establishment of one new P-3 post so as to ensure continuous service, taking into account the workload of the Tribunal.

Other staff costs

8.28 The resource requirements of $14,500, including a decrease of $1,700, would provide for overtime to assist the Tribunal in reducing the current backlog and for temporary assistance with respect to the servicing of the sessions of the Tribunal at Headquarters.

Non-staff compensation

8.29 Provision of $46,000 is for payment of honoraria to members of the Tribunal at the rates set by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/218 of 17 December 1980.

Consultants and experts

8.30 The estimated requirements of $42,000 would provide for updating, in book form, the Tribunal's case law and for the preparation and publication of the *Judgements of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal*.

Travel

8.31 The provision of $463,200, reflecting a reduction of $20,400 on the basis of expenditure patterns, relates to requirements for travel in connection with the attendance of seven members of the Tribunal at two sessions to be held in New York and two in Geneva and for travel of staff to service two meetings in Geneva.

Contractual services

8.32 The estimated requirements of $101,600, representing a decrease of $3,500, would provide for the cost of external printing of volumes XIV and XV of the *Judgements of the Administrative Tribunal* in English and in French ($42,100) and for database acquisition and rental, and usage fees for the computerized index of case law of the Administrative Tribunals of the United Nations and ILO (LEXIS) ($59,500).

General operating expenses

8.33 The estimated requirements of $5,500, including growth of $2,500, relate to maintenance of office automation equipment.

Equipment

8.34 A provision of $4,500, reflecting a reduction of $1,800, is proposed for acquisition of office automation equipment.

B. Programme of work

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole

Table 8.8 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 266.5	2 829.4	–	–	2 829.4	182.9	3 012.3
Consultants and experts	–	42.0	–	–	42.0	2.0	44.0
Travel	39.4	68.0	58.9	86.6	126.9	6.2	133.1
Contractual services	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–
General operating expenses	10.0	22.1	2.4	10.8	24.5	1.2	25.7
Hospitality	2.0	6.2	–	–	6.2	0.4	6.6
Supplies and materials	5.3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Furniture and equipment	16.8	34.0	–	–	34.0	1.6	35.6
Total	**2 340.1**	**3 001.7**	**61.3**	**2.0**	**3 063.0**	**194.3**	**3 257.3**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	1998-1999 estimates	Source of funds	2000-2001 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations:	
772.0	862.2	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	862.2
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities:	
		Trust Fund to Assist States in the Judicial Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of	
–	–	Justice	500.0
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
772.0	**862.2**	**Total**	**1 362.2**
3 112.1	**3 863.9**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**4 619.5**

Table 8.9 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Office of the Legal Counsel

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
ASG	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	1	1	–	–	1	1	2	2
P-5	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-4/3	2	2	–	–	1	1	3	3
P-2/1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Total	**8**	**8**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**10**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Other level	5	5	–	–	2	2	7	7
Total	**6**	**6**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**8**	**8**
Grand total	**14**	**14**	**–**	**–**	**4[a]**	**4[a]**	**18**	**18**

[a] Posts funded from support to extrabudgetary administrative structures.

8.35 The Office of the Legal Counsel is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme as well as the overall direction, supervision and management of all legal activities under this section.

8.36 The principal orientation of the subprogramme will continue to be the legal aspects of the activities of the principal decision-making organs of the United Nations, in particular regarding peacekeeping and other operations, missions and political activities of the Organization, as well as the good offices missions of the Secretary-General. In addition to sustaining the evolution of legal arrangements in support of the United Nations efforts to maintain international peace and security and selecting and servicing expert groups

mandated by the Secretary-General to investigate matters related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the activities of the subprogramme involve the interpretation and application of the Charter, resolutions and regulations of the United Nations and international agreements, as well as dealing with issues of public international law, in particular questions on the use of force and criminal and third-party liability.

8.37 Another objective of this subprogramme is to assist the meetings of principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and their cycle of conferences by providing legal services and advice on constitutional and procedural and credentials matters.

8.38 The subprogramme also provides legal advice to the Organization to ensure compliance with relevant United Nations resolutions, decisions, rules and regulations as regards the administration of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

8.39 In addition, the subprogramme negotiates and finalizes agreements for the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including the separately funded funds and programmes; the establishment of institutional and legal arrangements for cooperation among and with intergovernmental and other international organizations; and the legal arrangements regulating the status, privileges and immunities and activities of United Nations-related offices in the territories of host Governments.

Expected accomplishments

8.40 The work of the Office of the Legal Counsel to a large extent depends on requests for assistance. For the biennium 2000–2001, the following accomplishments are expected: creation of legal regimes contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and contributing to the proper execution of those regimes; resolution of international disputes through judicial means and through negotiation; contribution to increased compliance with the international legal instruments required for the conduct of United Nations operations; contribution, through procedural advice, to the smooth operation of elections and meetings; contribution to increased application of the constitutive and other legal instruments of the Organization and to an increase in the upholding of the privileges and immunities of the Organization; contribution to increased coordination on legal matters among the agencies of the United Nations system; and increased coordination on legal matters among the agencies of the United Nations system.

Outputs

8.41 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Substantive outputs*

(i) Maintenance of international peace and security and the good offices, fact-finding and other special missions, including emergency and humanitarian relief services, of the Secretary-General

a. Ensuring that the necessary and appropriate legal regimes and mandates are established for all peacekeeping operations and various good offices and other missions undertaken by the United Nations;

b. Participation in the negotiation of legal instruments with parties concerned on such legal regimes and mandates, including status-of-forces agreements, status-of-mission agreements, agreements with contributing States and cooperation agreements with regional organizations;

c. Providing substantive services to the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court, including a draft relationship agreement between the Court and the host country, a draft agreement on the privileges and immunities of the Court and other matters, should they be requested by the Commission;

d. Selecting and servicing expert groups mandated by the Secretary-General to investigate matters related to the maintenance of international peace and security;

e. Provision of legal advice to operationally responsible Secretariat units at Headquarters, offices established away from Headquarters and legal officers or liaison officers assigned to field missions;

f. Implementation of specific tasks and preparation of reports or analyses of a legal nature requested by the Security Council or its subsidiary organs in the field of international peace and security;

g. Advice to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs on legal ramifications and implementation of resolutions and decisions relating to international peace and security;

(ii) Settlement of disputes

a. Maintaining liaison with the International Court of Justice and discharging the legal responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Statute of the Court, including the preparation of legal statements and the transmission of notices relating to judicial proceedings;

b. Representation of the Secretary-General at judicial proceedings, including those of the International Court of Justice;

c. Negotiations or other procedures for the settlement of disputes of a public international law character involving the Organization;

d. Formulation of statements of public international law and study and analysis of specific legal disputes for the Secretary-General and United Nations organs and subsidiary organs and in response to inquiries concerning public international law from Governments;

(iii) Promotion of legal instruments

a. Preparation, negotiation and finalization of international agreements, constitutive instruments and other legal instruments required for the conduct of institutional or operational activities carried out by the United Nations, its organs and subsidiary organs, including UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in cooperation with Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions;

b. Promote and ensure respect for Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the headquarters agreements with the United States of America and other host Governments and other legal instruments;

(b) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings

a. Representation of the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel at meetings and conferences convened by the United Nations or sponsored by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions;

b. Provision of legal advice, studies and analysis on specific legal issues of a public international law nature as well as questions relating to the status and scope of participation of the members and observers of the intergovernmental organs of the United Nations;

c. Handling of questions relating to the credentials of representatives and representation in the United Nations, its organs and subsidiary organs and United Nations meetings and conferences;

d. Performance of the legal responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Statute of the International Court of Justice with regard to regular and casual elections of members of the Court in the General Assembly and the Security Council;

(ii) Procedural servicing of meetings

a. Provision of oral or written advice on the interpretation and application of rules of procedure of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, including their meetings and conferences and their preparatory bodies;

b. Provision of oral and written advice to the Security Council on the interpretation and application of the statutes and rules of procedure and evidence of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda;

c. Review and preparation of draft rules of procedure for United Nations organs, subsidiary organs and conferences; drafting rules of procedure of the Assembly of States Parties to the Statute of the International Criminal Court;

d. Overseeing and supervising elections in and to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, including the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda;

(iii) Other services provided

a. Provision of secretariat services to organs and bodies dealing with subject matters falling within the competence of the Office of the Legal Counsel, such as the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and, as appropriate, ad hoc working groups of the Sixth Committee on matters falling within the competence of the Office of the Legal Counsel;

b. Preparation of notes and statements for the Chairmen, assistance to the bureaux in organizing their work, analysis and clarification of legal issues involved and preparation of reports and documents;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) International cooperation

a. Legal advice on questions relating to the interpretation and application of the Charter and other constitutive instruments, multilateral or bilateral treaties and agreements, United Nations resolutions, decisions, regulations and rules and general questions of public international law, so as to ensure uniform and consistent practice of the law;

b. Advice on legal questions concerning privileges and immunities and the legal status of the Organization arising from activities of the United Nations, its organs and subsidiary organs, including UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in the territories of States, and the legal relationship with the Member States, Observer States, intergovernmental and regional organizations and other international entities;

(ii) Inter-agency coordination and liaison

a. Coordination of interdepartmental activities, liaison with organs of the United Nations dealing with legal matters, offices established away from Headquarters, legal advisers or liaison officers assigned to field missions or other Secretariat units;

b. Cooperation with and coordination of institutional arrangements for the specialized and related agencies and with other international and national organizations dealing with matters of common concern;

c. Representation at and convening of meetings with legal liaison officers and legal advisers of the United Nations system;

(d) *Technical cooperation*

(i) Advisory services at the request of Governments

a. Assistance to States, including through the Trust Fund to Assist States in the Judicial Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice, in settling their legal disputes through the Court, including application of the Statute, servicing the Panel of Experts and reporting to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly;

b. Formulation of statements of public international law and the study and analysis of specific legal disputes in response to questions from Governments and missions of Governments;

(ii) Group training, including seminars, workshops and fellowships

a. Presentation of papers and participation in meetings, symposia and conferences sponsored by United Nations organs, Governments, professional societies or international organizations on current or constitutional legal issues relating to the functions of the United Nations;

b. Provision of legal expertise and resource persons to training courses sponsored by Governments or international institutions for diplomats on subjects falling within the competence of the Office;

(iii) Dissemination and wider appreciation of international law

Formulation of legal statements in response to questions of public international law from intergovernmental and regional organizations, international and academic institutions, and the public.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.42 The estimated requirements of $2,829,400 would provide for the continuation of eight posts in the Professional category and above and six General Service posts.

Consultants and experts

8.43 An amount of $42,400, at maintenance level, is requested to enable the Office to respond to unanticipated requests emanating from the intergovernmental process, such as commissions of investigation and enquiry.

Travel

8.44 The estimated requirements of $126,900, reflecting a growth of $58,900 based on 1998 expenditure patterns, relate to travel of the Legal Counsel and other senior legal officers undertaken at the request of the Secretary-General for consultations with the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and in connection with peacekeeping missions and United Nations meetings held away from Headquarters. Travel for appearances before the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda are also to be expected.

General operating expenses

8.45 The estimate of $24,500, reflecting a growth of $2,400, relates to the maintenance costs of office automation equipment.

Hospitality

8.46 Resources of $6,200 relate to the cost of official functions.

Furniture and equipment

8.47 A provision of $34,000, at maintenance level, is proposed for costs relating to acquisition and replacement of office automation equipment and computer software.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes

Table 8.10 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 351.7	3 577.0	191.5	5.3	3 768.5	253.3	4 021.8
Other staff costs	22.2	23.1	5.7	24.6	28.8	1.4	30.2
Consultants and experts	41.6	52.2	–	–	52.2	2.6	54.8
Travel	5.3	12.5	–	–	12.5	0.6	13.1
Contractual services	39.7	138.7	–	–	138.7	6.7	145.4
General operating expenses	34.3	29.3	16.4	55.9	45.7	2.2	47.9
Supplies and materials	4.3	–	9.0	–	9.0	0.4	9.4
Furniture and equipment	55.6	66.1	6.2	9.3	72.3	3.5	75.8
Total	**3 554.7**	**3 898.9**	**228.8**	**5.8**	**4 127.7**	**270.7**	**4 398.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996–1997 expenditures	*1998–1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000–2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations:	
904.3	2 001.4	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	1 637.8
		(ii) Extrabudgetary programmes:	
–	768.3	Peacekeeping operations	779.1
–	–	(b) Substantive activities	–
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
904.3	**2 769.7**		**2 416.9**
4 459.0	**6 668.6**		**6 815.3**

Table 8.11 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: General Legal Division

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	1	1	–	–	1	1	2	2
P-5	4	4	–	–	2	2	6	6
P-4/3	6	7	–	–	3	3	9	10
P-2/1	–	–	–	–	2	2	2	2
Total	**12**	**13**	**–**	**–**	**8**	**8**	**20**	**21**
General Service category								
Other level	6	6	–	–	4	4	10	10
Total	**6**	**6**	**–**	**–**	**4**	**4**	**10**	**10**
Grand total	**18**	**19**	**–**	**–**	**12[a]**	**12[a]**	**30**	**31**

[a] Includes nine posts funded from support to extrabudgetary administrative structures (1 D-1, 1 P-5, 1 P-3, 2 P-2 and 4 General Service); and three posts funded from the support account for peacekeeping operations (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 1 P-3).

8.48 The subprogramme will be implemented by the General Legal Division.

8.49 The main activities of the subprogramme are the provision of a wide range of legal services and assistance in support of the operations and activities of the Organization, including all Secretariat units and offices at Headquarters, of other United Nations offices away from Headquarters, of peacekeeping, observer and humanitarian missions separately administered and funded and of subsidiary organs of the United Nations, such as UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and the United Nations Office for Project Services. The main objectives of the subprogramme are to ensure effective and efficient operations and activities, to protect the legal interests, to minimize risk of loss and financial liability and to ensure compliance with resolutions or other legislative norms as well as the regulations, rules and other administrative issuances of the United Nations. The Office of the Legal Counsel remains primarily responsible for issues relating to public international law.

8.50 In order to effectively and efficiently manage the wide variety of legal services required by the Organization, as well as the heavy caseload generated by it, the activities of the Division have been divided into four categories, or clusters: (a) administration and management; (b) substantial contracts and procurement; (c) institutional support; and (d) peacekeeping operations support.

8.51 During the biennium 2000–2001, the focus of the Division will be on:

(a) Assisting the Organization in developing and implementing proposals concerning reform in human resources management;

(b) Assisting the Organization in implementing proposals to reform the ways in which it procures goods and services;

(c) Assisting the Organization with the implementation of the multi-billion dollar oil-for-food programme in Iraq;

(d) Preparing new modalities and legal instruments for use by the Organization and its subsidiary bodies in dealing with civil society and the private sector, including drafting of funding agreements and of arrangements for the use of the United Nations name and emblem;

(e) Assisting the Organization in the winding up of various peacekeeping operations, including the disposition of assets and equipment and the resolution of claims by States and private entities;

(f) Conducting or supervising the conduct of arbitrations or litigation concerning large-scale commercial disputes or other claims of a private law character against the United Nations;

(g) Assisting the Organization in recovering assets in cases of theft, corruption or other fraudulent actions committed by staff members or contractors, including instituting criminal and civil actions before national courts;

(h) Representing the Secretary-General in cases brought under the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.

8.52 Five Professional and four General Service posts in the Division are funded with extrabudgetary resources provided by the separately funded, subsidiary organs. Three Professional posts are funded with extrabudgetary resources provided for the peacekeeping support account. However, in order to effectively and efficiently meet the heavy and varied demands of the United Nations for legal services provided under this subprogramme, which requires a range of expertise, all attorneys of the Division, whether funded from the regular budget of the United Nations, from peacekeeping assessments or from resources provided by the separately funded, subsidiary organs, are treated as an integral part of the Division. Staff of the Division assigned to address issues relating to any one cluster of issues are expected to devote up to 50 per cent of their time, as needed and as appropriate, to the work of the other clusters.

Expected accomplishments

8.53 The caseload of the General Legal Division is demand driven and not programmatic. The Division, therefore, responds to requests for services throughout the Organization and in the field. For the biennium 2000–2001, expected accomplishments are: the application and interpretation of the Organization's administrative law governing employment relations in a consistent, fair and legally correct manner and in compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations as well as related administrative issuances of the Organization; the establishment of agreements with Governments, the specialized agencies and other entities concerned for the purposes intended; compliance with established agreements required for the conduct of United Nations operations; resolution of potential disputes through negotiation; creation of the legal framework for the establishment, implementation and winding-up of peacekeeping, observer and humanitarian operations and missions in accordance with established regulations, rules and policies of the Organization and the establishment of agreements, contracts and other legal arrangements that reduce disputes against the Organization arising from such operations; protection of the legal interests of the Organization and minimization of the Organization's liabilities; compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization relating to procurement; resolution of contractual disputes through negotiation; protection of the legal interests of the Organization, minimization of the Organization's liabilities and effective development and presentation of factual and legal positions of the Organization in cases before arbitral or judicial or quasi-judicial tribunals; recovery or partial recovery of lost assets and prosecution of the perpetrators of fraudulent or other unlawful actions; cooperation with the national law enforcement authorities involving United Nations staff or activities; provision of comprehensive legally accurate and timely briefs to the United Nations Administrative Tribunal to enable it to adjudicate cases expeditiously; minimization of financial and other liability and protection of the legal interest of the Organization in cases before the Tribunal; and contribution to increased partnership with civil society and the private sector within the legal parameters of the Charter and related regulations.

Outputs

8.54 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*. Headquarters liaison services to the secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) In consultation with the Office of the Legal Counsel, providing assistance relating to agreements with Member States for the contribution of personnel as well as the provision of materials and equipment for peacekeeping, observer, humanitarian, good-offices, emergency and other special missions, operations and activities;

(ii) Advice on procurement of supplies and services for peacekeeping, observer, humanitarian, good-offices, emergency and other special missions with respect to:

a. Arrangements concerning air and sea charters and related matters;

b. Contracts for provision of equipment, supplies and other logistical support as well as construction contracts;

c. Contracts for demining or similar operations;

d. Agreements for the disposition of assets at mission termination;

e. Settlement of contractual and real property disputes as well as claims for property damage, personal injury and death;

f. Representation of the Organization before arbitral and other judicial or quasi-judicial bodies;

(iii) Advice on the legislative arrangements (e.g., regulations and rules, including the Field Administration Handbook) governing staff serving in such missions and operations;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Support to the Secretariat and to the separately funded, subsidiary organs of the United Nations regarding basic agreements governing the terms and conditions of operational activities for development assistance through:

a. Assistance on the institutional and legal modalities for cooperation with the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, with Governments and with other entities involved in the implementation of development activities, programmes and projects;

b. Preparation of model agreements for establishing field offices;

(ii) Support for the operational activities of the Secretariat and the separately funded, subsidiary organs in regard to development assistance relating, for example, to such issues as:

a. Commercial and other contractual arrangements, including for personnel and technical assistance;

b. Procurement activities for management of loans and grants by Governments, regional or international banks and other financial institutions;

c. Fund-raising initiatives of the separately funded, subsidiary organs;

d. Revision of financial regulations and rules in order to achieve harmonization of such regulations and rules;

e. Resolution of disputes and claims arising from such operational activities;

f. Representation of the Organization before arbitral and other judicial or quasi-judicial bodies;

(iii) Assisting with the development of new modalities for working with civil society and the private sector in achieving the objectives of the United Nations;

(d) *Administrative support services*

(i) Providing support to all Secretariat units with regard to the full range of the financial activities of the United Nations regarding matters such as:

a. The Organization's financial policies and procedures;

b. Operations and activities of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, including custody arrangements for the worldwide investment of the Fund's assets;

c. Settlement of third-party tort claims brought under the Organization's self-insurance and commercial liability insurance programmes;

d. Representation of the Organization before judicial and arbitral bodies;

(ii) Support for human resources management and the administration of justice for matters such as:

a. Personnel questions;

b. Revisions to the Staff Regulations and Rules;

c. Representation of the Secretary-General in cases brought under the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

(iii) Support, for the Organization's procurement activities, property arrangements and other commercial activities regarding:

a. Procurement policies and procedures;

b. Bidding documents and substantial contracts for the procurement of goods, services and supplies;

c. Publication contracts with commercial presses and publishing houses;

d. Intellectual property issues;

e. Real property transactions and arrangements for the Organization and its field offices;

f. Commercial claims arising from the Organization's procurement activities;

g. Representation of the Organization before judicial and arbitral bodies;

(iv) General legal advice regarding the operations and activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, including:

a. Interpretation of the mandate of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, for example, in regard to the investigation of misconduct, waste of resources and abuse of authority;

b. Assistance to or representation of the Organization, as appropriate, in proceedings and prosecutions for the recovery of assets or for other restitutionary measures.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.55 The estimate of $3,768,500, reflecting a growth of $191,500, will provide for the continuation of 12 posts in the Professional category and above and 6 General Service posts and the proposed establishment of one new Professional post (P-3) required to handle the increased demand for legal services by the Division, particularly in the area of arbitration of commercial disputes, recovery of assets and cases involving staff members.

Other staff costs

8.56 Estimated requirements of $28,800, including a growth of $5,700, relate to the continuing need to retain the temporary services of additional lawyers during periods of peak workload, especially in cases of unforeseen mandates entrusted by the Security Council or the General Assembly to the Secretariat ($21,000), and overtime ($7,800).

Consultants and experts

8.57 The resources proposed under this heading ($52,200), at maintenance level, relate to the cost of retaining the services of outside counsel for advice and assistance in matters requiring special expertise not available in the Secretariat, such as matters involving complex real estate and banking transactions, taxation questions, complex commercial claims and intellectual property matters, all of which require interpretation of national law or representation before national courts or administrative bodies, and for assistance in responding to unanticipated matters of an urgent nature.

Travel

8.58 The estimated requirements of $12,500, at maintenance level, would provide for travel required to ensure: (a) provision of legal services and support to offices away from Headquarters for negotiation and preparation of contracts and other agreements; (b) representation of the Organization in legal proceedings; (c) orientation to outside counsel in connection with the interpretation of relevant legal instruments, the resolution of disputes and the representation of the Organization; and (d) representation of the Secretary-General before the United Nations Administrative Tribunal at its sessions in Geneva.

Contractual services

8.59 The estimate of $138,700, at maintenance level, relates to the ongoing cost of subscriptions and usage fees in connection with the WESTLAW and LEXIS legal database services, which provide access to domestic and international legal materials and the judgements of the Administrative Tribunal, as well as other electronic data sources of legal information.

General operating expenses

8.60 The estimated requirements of $45,700, including a growth of $16,400, relate primarily to costs for the maintenance of office automation equipment in the Division.

Supplies and materials

8.61 Resource requirements in the amount of $9,000 are proposed for office automation supplies and electronic publications.

Furniture and equipment

8.62 The estimated requirements of $72,300 reflect a growth of $6,200 to accommodate proposed new staff and relate to the acquisition of office automation equipment and the upgrading and replacement of electronic data-processing equipment required by the Division.

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Table 8.12 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 392.3	3 945.9	–	–	3 945.9	262.3	4 208.2
Other staff costs	7.8	7.1	79.4	1 118.3	86.5	4.3	90.8
Travel	8.4	16.6	5.2	31.3	21.8	1.0	22.8
Contractual services	37.4	236.5	(118.2)	(49.9)	118.3	5.8	124.1
General operating expenses	7.9	30.8	(0.3)	(0.9)	30.5	1.4	31.9
Furniture and equipment	32.0	24.5	(0.7)	(2.8)	23.8	1.2	25.0
Grants and contributions	147.3	351.6	–	–	351.6	17.0	368.6
Total	**3 633.1**	**4 613.0**	**(34.6)**	**(0.7)**	**4 578.4**	**293.0**	**4 871.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
–	–	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	–
		(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	
–	–	Peacekeeping operations	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
113.9	130.0	Trust Fund for the Seminar on International Law	130.0
4.1	6.0	Trust Fund for the Gilberto Amado Memorial Lecture	6.0
77.1	700.0	Trust Fund for the Least Developed Countries in the Work of the Preparatory Committee on the stablishment of an International Criminal Court and in the 1998 Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	420.0
24.5	1 597.1	Trust Fund for the Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court	–
37.6	15.0	Trust Fund for the Colloquium on the Progressive Development and Codification of International Law	–
–	90.0	Trust Fund for the Developing Countries in the Work of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and in the 1998 Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	100.0
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
257.2	**2 538.1**	**Total**	**656.0**
3 890.3	**7 151.1**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**5 527.4**

Table 8.13 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Codification Division

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-5	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-4/3	6	6	–	–	–	–	6	6
P-2/1	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
Total	**14**	**14**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**14**	**14**
General Service category								
Other level	7	7	–	–	–	–	7	7
Total	**7**	**7**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**7**
Grand total	**21**	**21**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**21**	**21**

8.63 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Codification Division.

8.64 The activities will aim at: (a) promoting the acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law and encouraging the progressive development and codification of international law; (b) encouraging the dissemination and wider appreciation of international law; and (c) implementing decisions taken by organs and subsidiary organs in the field of public international law.

8.65 The first objective is to provide United Nations bodies dealing with international law (including the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly, the International Law Commission, codification conferences and special or ad hoc committees) with substantive support, including research and analytical studies on topics of international law, preparing background documentation, drafting reports, assistance in the conduct of proceedings, drafting of resolutions, decisions, amendments and proposals, and managing of meetings and informal consultations.

8.66 The second objective is to implement, administer and monitor the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law and to ensure the preparation and issuance of legal publications, including the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, the *Legislative Series*, the United Nations Reports of International Arbitral Awards and the proceedings of codification conferences. Efforts will also be made to have those publications available in electronic form for wider dissemination and use by delegations and the general public.

8.67 The General Assembly has requested in resolution 53/106 that special efforts be made to expedite the preparation and publication of Supplements to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*. The Division is responsible for reviewing submissions for this publication and for preparing the submission on Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter. It should be noted, however, that the drafting of initial submissions is the responsibility of 10 separate departments/offices and that the General Assembly, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 53/106, took note of the Secretary-General's recommendation that the Repertory-related tasks should be included as distinct activities within relevant sections of future programme budgets starting with the biennium 2000–2001.

8.68 The third objective is to undertake implementation measures required pursuant to decisions taken by the relevant organs and subsidiary bodies pertaining to progressive development and codification of international law.

8.69 The draft texts prepared by the above-mentioned legal bodies will serve as bases for the elaboration by the General Assembly or by diplomatic conferences of such legal instruments as conventions, declarations, resolutions or guidelines, constituting important sources of international law.

8.70 Assistance in the form of fellowships, seminars and publications under this subprogramme will take into account the needs of developing countries.

Expected accomplishments

8.71 During the biennium 2000–2001, this subprogramme expects to accomplish, *inter alia*, the following: increased awareness by Member States of and respect for the rules and principles of international law; formulation and adoption of legal instruments to deal with issues of major international concern; and use by Member States of institutional mechanism envisaged by such instruments; the effective operation of the meetings of United Nations bodies dealing with the codification and progressive development of international law; increased awareness and knowledge of the rules and principles of international law on the part of the general public; increased participation and contribution of individuals and institutions from developing countries in the dissemination of public international law; and increased knowledge, and understanding of the United Nations efforts in the field of the codification and progressive development of international law.

Outputs

8.72 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings

a. General Assembly and ad hoc subsidiary organs of the Sixth Committee

i. Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (two sessions, 70 meetings per session);

ii. Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (two sessions, 20 meetings per session);

iii. Preparatory Commission of the International Criminal Court (three sessions per year, 80 meetings per year);

iv. Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Legal Instruments for the Prevention of Terrorist Acts (two sessions, 30 meetings per session);

v. Advisory Committee of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (two sessions, 2 meetings per session);

b. International Law Commission (two sessions, 84 meetings per session);

c. Diplomatic conferences. International conference to consider the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission on the Jurisdictional Immunity of States and their property (one session, 30 meetings);

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Sixth Committee of the General Assembly. Annual reports on: effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives; the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949

and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts; measures to eliminate international terrorism; the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law; and reports on the United Nations Decade on Public International Law; and other subjects, as requested by the General Assembly;

b. The International Law Commission. Analytical studies and reports on the reservations to treaties; State responsibility; succession of States and impact on nationality; diplomatic protection; and unilateral acts of States; liability for acts not prohibited by international law and other possible topics on the Commission's agenda;

c. Subsidiary organs of the Sixth Committee

i. Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. Pre-session and in-session studies and documentation; and draft reports of the Committee;

ii. Preparatory Commission of the International Criminal Court. Pre-session, in-session, and post-session studies, and documentation;

iii. Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Legal Instruments for the Prevention of Terrorist Acts. Pre-session and in-session studies and documentation;

iv. Working Group on measures to eliminate international terrorism. In-session studies, reports and documentation;

v. Working Group on the Implementation of Charter Provisions relating to Assistance to Third States Affected by the Application of Sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter. In-session studies and documentation;

(b) Other substantive activities

(i) Promotion of appropriate legal instruments, including development of guidelines and principles in the following areas:

a. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

b. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings;

c. International convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;

d. International convention for the suppression of terrorist financing;

e. Other legal instruments for the prevention of terrorist acts;

f. Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations and between International Organizations;

(ii) Recurrent publications

a. *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* (General Assembly resolution 987 (X)): volume II, part I, 1996; volume I, 1999; volume II, part II, 1999; volume II, part I, 1999; volume I, 2000; volume II, part II, 2000;

b. *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (General Assembly resolutions 814 (XVIII), 2479 (XXIII), 3006 (XXVII)). Volume 1997; volume 1998; cumulative index, volume 2; and volume 1998;

c. *Legislative Series* (General Assembly resolution 174 (II)). Volumes 23 and 24;

d. *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*. Volume XXII;

e. Volumes I and II of Supplement 6 to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*;

f. Judgments, advisory opinions and orders of the International Court of Justice 1996–2000;

(iii) Non-recurrent publications

a. Proceedings of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court: volume I (summary records); and volume II (proposals, reports and other documents);

b. Proceedings of the international conference on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property: volume I (summary records); and volume II (proposals, reports and other documents);

(iv) Seminars. Group training, including seminars, workshops and fellowships under the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (General Assembly resolution 52/152);

(v) Electronic, audio and video issuances: (a) incorporation into electronic format for Internet dissemination of the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (chap. VI on legal opinions); information related to Sixth Committee activities; Special Committee on the Charter; International Criminal Court; International Law Commission and information on its activities; recent conventions; and (b) establishment of an audio-visual library for disseminating audio and video tapes on international law topics for teaching purposes;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison.* External relations: participation of staff members in activities relating to progressive development and codification of international law sponsored by intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.72 The estimate of $3,945,900 would cover the cost of continuation of 14 posts in the Professional category and above and 7 General Service posts.

Other staff costs

8.74 A provision of $86,500 is proposed for general temporary assistance, including a growth of $79,400 specifically for reducing the backlog, for the preparation of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and for overtime.

Travel

8.75 The estimated requirements of $21,800, including a growth of $5,200 based on 1998 expenditures, relate to attendance by staff at meetings and conferences of United Nations organs and other bodies held away from Headquarters and meetings of regional bodies with which the International Law Commission has established formal links, including inter-sessional meetings organized by delegations of Sixth Committee or subsidiary organs, in connection with important topics such as the International Criminal Court and international terrorism.

Contractual services

8.76 The estimated requirements of $118,300, representing a reduction of $118,200, based on expenditure patterns, relate to the external printing costs of four volumes of the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, two volumes of the *Legislative Series*, one volume of the *United Nations Reports of International Arbitral Awards* and printing of the Supplements to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

General operating expenses

8.77 An estimate of $30,500 would provide for the maintenance of office automation equipment.

Furniture and equipment

8.78 Resource requirements in the amount of $23,800 are proposed to provide for the acquisition of office automation equipment.

Grants and contributions

8.79 Requirements of $351,600, at maintenance level, are estimated for the cost of travel and stipends for approximately 32 fellowships to participants from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in connection with the United Nations/United Nations Institute for Training and Research fellowship programme in international law in Geneva.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Table 8.14 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	5 530.9	4 959.4	–	–	4 959.4	324.7	5 284.1
Other staff costs	0.1	4.2	(1.2)	(28.5)	3.0	0.2	3.2
Consultants and experts	107.9	179.7	(39.7)	(22.0)	140.0	6.8	146.8
Travel	122.4	107.6	(5.5)	(5.1)	102.1	5.0	107.1
Contractual services	15.3	56.8	(12.3)	(21.6)	44.5	2.1	46.6
General operating expenses	132.4	43.9	–	–	43.9	2.1	46.0
Supplies and materials	–	17.3	7.7	44.5	25.0	1.2	26.2
Furniture and equipment	130.9	69.1	–	–	69.1	3.3	72.4
Total	**6 039.9**	**5 438.0**	**(51.0)**	**(0.9)**	**5 387.0**	**345.4**	**5 732.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996–1997 expenditures	*1998–1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000–2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
–	–	Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	–
64.3	40.0	Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship	50.0
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
64.3	**40.0**	**Total**	**50.0**
6 104.2	**5 478.0**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**5 782.4**

Table 8.15 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-5	4	4	–	–	–	–	4	4
P-4/3	7	7	–	–	–	–	7	7
P-2/1	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
Total	**17**	**17**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**17**	**17**
General Service category								
Other level	10	10	–	–	–	–	10	10
Total	**10**	**10**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**10**	**10**
Grand total	**27**	**27**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**27**	**27**

8.80 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

8.81 The overall objective of the subprogramme is to foster international peace and security through strengthening the international legal order for the seas and oceans established by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The central thrust of the subprogramme is the promotion of the Convention and the related agreements by facilitating their understanding, their widest possible acceptance, their uniform and consistent application and their effective implementation, as well as assisting States in their efforts to derive full practical benefits from the international legal regime and in the enjoyment of their rights and the fulfilment of their obligations arising therefrom.

8.82 With the entry into force of the Convention, the course of action during the biennium and in the medium term has been defined by the General Assembly in its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 50/23 of 5 December 1995 and 51/34 of 10 December 1996. Pursuant to the mandate provided by the Assembly, the focus and priorities of the activities will be on:

(a) Provision of coordinated information, advice and assistance to States and intergovernmental bodies through monitoring, review and analysis of developments relating to the law of the sea and ocean affairs, placing emphasis on State practice, international juridical decisions and international treaties and other legal instruments, as well as on economic and technical issues;

(b) Provision of services to States, including depository and advisory services, as well as training and education in their efforts to implement the Convention and to develop and strengthen capabilities and infrastructures in order to apply the framework provided by the Convention for national, subregional, regional and global action;

(c) Support to organizations within and outside the United Nations system in their marine-related activities with a view to securing consistency with the international legal regime and promoting a concerted approach to the application and implementation of the Convention, especially in the formulation of new legal instruments and programmes in marine-related matters within their respective areas of competence;

(d) Servicing the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;

(e) Reporting on developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs and emerging issues to the General Assembly, the Meeting of States Parties and competent international organizations.

8.83 The planned activities are expected to contribute to more States and entities becoming parties to the Convention and the related agreements, to the development of national and international legal instruments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs consistent with the provisions of the Convention; peaceful delimitation of maritime zones; and the development of projects and programmes in the marine sector at the national, subregional, regional and global levels consistent with the international legal regime. High-quality substantive support will be provided, through the activities, to the intergovernmental and expert bodies, in particular to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, especially in its work related to the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf of coastal States. The activities will also respond to the expressed need of the international community for the annual consideration, review and evaluation of continuing developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs.

Expected accomplishments

8.84 For the biennium 2000–2001, the expected accomplishments are: ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Law of the Sea and the related agreements; uniform and consistent application of the principles and the provisions of the Convention by States and international organizations; adoption or adaptation of legal instruments at the national and international levels, in harmony with the provisions of the Convention; efficient functioning of the treaty system of institutions created by the Convention; increased understanding, knowledge and expertise with regard to deriving practical benefits from the international legal regime for the oceans; annual in-depth consideration, review and evaluation of global developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs in the General Assembly, including identification of emerging issues.

Outputs

8.85 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) General Assembly

Parliamentary documentation. Annual reports on developments pertaining to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other developments and emerging issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea; specific topics of current interest; reports on developments pertaining to the Agreement for the implementation of the Provisions of the Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (2001); drift-net fishing; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction; and fisheries by-catch and discards, including coordinated reporting on all major fisheries-related activities and instruments (2000);

(ii) Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

a. Substantive servicing. Plenary (20 meetings per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation. As required by article 319 of the Convention, annual reports on issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention, the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and priority topics selected by the Meeting of States Parties; the report of the Meeting of States Parties on its tenth session (2000); the report of the Meeting of States Parties on its eleventh session (2001); and background papers and conference room papers, as mandated (2000 and 2001);

(iii) Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

a. Substantive servicing. Plenary and working groups (60 meetings per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation

i. Priority topics selected by the Commission (2000 and 2001);

ii. Background papers and conference room papers, as mandated;

c. Other services provided

i. Ad hoc expert groups. Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP); plenary (2000, one session); Working Group (2000, one session); plenary (2001, one session); Working Group (2001, one session); Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts Advisory Board; plenary (2000, one session); plenary (2001, one session);

ii. Expert group meeting on integrated marine and coastal area management (2001);

iii. Depository services. As required by the Convention, maintenance and further development of the facilities for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning baselines and limits of national maritime zones and of the system for their recording, including a cartographic system; and, as required, giving due publicity to such information;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Promotion of legal instruments. Promotion of the universal acceptance of the Convention and the related agreements, their uniform and consistent application and their effective implementation through, among other means:

a. Reports on acceptance of the Convention and the related Agreements;

b. Reports on State practice, including national legislation, bilateral and multilateral treaties as well as decisions of international judicial bodies related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

c. Reports on integrated management practices of ocean affairs requisite for the effective implementation of the Convention in order to realize optimal benefits under it;

d. Database on the limits of the continental shelf, integrating, *inter alia,* scientific and technical data in the fields of marine geology, geophysics, geochemistry and hydrography pertaining to the application of the provisions of the Convention related to the continental shelf, and disseminating information therefrom;

e. Reports and advice on marine legislation and marine policy as well as management, economic, technological and scientific aspects of the implementation of the Convention and the related agreements through, *inter alia,* a centralized system of information;

f. Advice on establishing guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

(ii) Recurrent publications

a. *Law of the Sea Bulletin* (3 issues per year);

b. *Practice of States* (2000) (2001); (annual);

c. *Bibliography of the Law of the Sea* (annual);

d. Handbook on integrated marine and coastal area management (2001);

e. Biennial reports of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection;

(iii) Non-recurrent publications. State practice in world's oceans and seas: regional studies (2000, two publications) (2001, one publication);

(iv) Press releases. Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, sessions of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, award of Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship and other topics of interest (12 press releases, per year);

(v) Technical material

a. Internet Web site on the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

b. Specialized data and information products and services in computer-generated formats on the status of the Convention and the related agreements; bilateral and multilateral treaties and other legal instruments; national legislation; charts and geographical coordinates of maritime zones; the limits of the continental shelf; and national maritime profile;

c. Law of the sea information circular (two issues per year);

d. Newsletter on current developments in the law of the sea and ocean affairs (three issues per year);

e. Special studies/reviews, in cooperation with competent international organizations as required, on selected emerging issues and persistent problems related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs, such as:

i. Protection and preservation of marine environment (2000);

ii. Marine non-living resources (2000);

iii. Marine and coastal biodiversity (2001);

f. Abstracts for the inter-agency monthly publication *Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts* (three batches per year);

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Participation in activities of intergovernmental bodies. Cooperation with intergovernmental bodies related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs, including support to the substantive servicing of meetings, contributions to parliamentary documentation, contributions to activities and participation in meetings, in particular, the International Seabed Authority, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea, conferences of parties to related conventions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, and regional and subregional bodies, such as Indian Ocean Marine Affairs Cooperation, the South Atlantic Zone of Peace and the South Pacific Commission;

(ii) Participation in activities of non-governmental organizations. Cooperation, including contributions to activities and participation in meetings of non-governmental organizations in matters related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

(iii) Participation in and support of activities of funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, including assistance in substantive servicing of meetings, contributions to parliamentary documentation and preparation of studies and information notes on issues related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs; legal research and analysis and legal advice and services on the law of the sea and ocean affairs; advisory services on the implications of the provisions of the Convention for existing and proposed legal instruments and programmes in their specific areas of competence; contributions to and participation in the activities and meetings of

interorganizational bodies, in particular, in relation to chapter 17 of Agenda 21, Protection of the oceans, all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas and the protection and rational use and development of their living resources, the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Intersecretariat Committee on Scientific Programmes Relating to Oceanography;

(iv) Participation in the activities of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas;

(d) *Conference services*

Library services. Provision of library services through the maintenance and development of the specialized reference collection and bibliographic database on the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

(e) *Technical cooperation*

(i) Advisory services to States

a. On issues related to the ratification of the Convention and the related agreements, their uniform and consistent application and effective implementation, including the impact of the entry into force of the Convention in the light of the rights and obligations of States arising therefrom;

b. On harmonizing national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and the drafting of rules and regulations to implement such legislation;

c. On issues related to the full realization of benefits by States under the Convention, including economic, technological, scientific and environmental issues;

(ii) Group training

a. Operation and further development of the training programme on the law of the sea and ocean affairs, including train-sea-coast (with support from UNDP):

i. Training of a cadre of course developers;

ii. Further development of a menu of training courses;

iii. Assistance in strengthening national training institutions;

b. Assistance to seminars/workshops related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

c. Regular and ad hoc briefings on the law of the sea;

(iii) Fellowships. Annual award of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship and supervision of fellowship recipient through the operation of the fellowship programme;

(iv) Field projects. Project support in cooperation with funding agencies and in joint activities with other international organizations and institutions, where appropriate.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.86 The estimated requirements of $4,959,400 include provisions for 17 posts in the Professional category and above and 10 General Service posts.

Other staff costs

8.87 A provision of $3,000, reflecting a decrease of $1,200, is proposed for overtime requirements.

Consultants and experts

8.88 Estimated requirements of $140,000, including a reduction of $39,700, on the basis of expenditure patterns, relate to specialized consultancy services not available in the Secretariat for preparation of material on specific topics related to the delimitation of maritime boundaries, technical aspects of the regime for the continental shelf and scientific aspects of the protection of marine environment, as well as data, information and management requirements for the effective implementation of the Convention and provision for an ad hoc expert group meeting on delimitation of maritime boundaries.

Travel

8.89 The estimated requirements of $102,100, reflecting a decrease of $5,500, relate to travel of staff to the meetings of organizations of the United Nations system and other organizations.

Contractual services

8.90 A provision of $44,500, including a decrease of $12,300, on the basis of expenditure patterns, would meet the cost of the recurrent and non-recurrent publications included in the programme of work and provide for subscription to database lines in the field of law of the sea and ocean affairs.

General operating expenses

8.91 The estimate of $43,900, at maintenance level, relates to office automation equipment.

Supplies and materials

8.92 The provision of $25,000, reflecting a growth of $7,700, will cover the cost of library books for the maintenance of the law of the sea reference collection. This collection is a central source of information for Member States, universities, legal practitioners and others.

Furniture and equipment

8.93 The estimated requirement of $69,100, at maintenance level, would cover the cost of acquisition and replacement of office automation equipment.

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade

Table 8.16 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 845.8	2 919.1	–	–	2 919.1	81.6	3 000.7
Other staff costs	3.6	7.7	(6.0)	(77.9)	1.7	–	1.7
Consultants and experts	97.1	158.7	–	–	158.7	4.8	163.5
Travel	63.3	72.7	–	–	72.7	3.6	76.3
General operating expenses	–	19.2	33.9	176.5	53.1	1.6	54.7
Supplies and materials	–	–	115.1	–	115.1	3.4	118.5
Furniture and equipment	23.8	23.9	–	–	23.9	0.8	24.7
Total	**3 033.6**	**3 201.3**	**143.0**	**4.4**	**3 344.3**	**95.8**	**3 440.1**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	1998-1999 estimates	Source of funds	2000-2001 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities:	
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Commission on International Trade	
152.1	220.0	Law Symposia	220.0
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
152.1	**220.0**		**220.0**
3 185.7	**3 421.3**		**3 660.1**

Table 8.17 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: International Trade Law Branch

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-4/3	7	7	–	–	–	–	7	7
Total	**10**	**10**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**10**	**10**
General Service category								
Other level	7	7	–	–	–	–	7	7
Total	**7**	**7**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**7**
Grand total	**17**	**17**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**17**	**17**

8.94 The subprogramme is implemented by the International Trade Law Branch, which acts as the secretariat of UNCITRAL.

8.95 The objective of the subprogramme is: (a) to develop texts designed to modernize and harmonize laws on international trade, facilitate contract negotiations and foster good trade practices; (b) to provide legislative assistance to Governments; (c) to coordinate work of international organizations active in the field of trade law; and (d) to promote uniform interpretation of harmonized texts on international trade law.

8.96 During the biennium the focus of the subprogramme will be on:

(a) Preparation of legal texts (conventions, model laws, model clauses, rules and legal guides) on: legal aspects of electronic commerce; legislative aspects of private financing of public infrastructure projects; use of security interests in international trade; cross-border insolvency matters; maritime transport of goods; and international commercial arbitration; all this bearing in mind the special needs of developing countries (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI) of 27 December 1966, sect. II, para. 8 (c) and repeatedly reconfirmed by the Assembly);

(b) Technical assistance to Governments regarding enactment of Commission texts (e.g., on settlement of disputes, public procurement, electronic commerce, international payments and cross-border insolvency); advising non-governmental bodies, such as chambers of commerce and arbitration centres, on the preparation of standard rules; preparing drafts of guides to enactment for Commission legal texts; training of users of Commission texts; assisting universities in incorporating Commission texts into their curricula; and assisting States in dealing with questions arising after Commission texts have been adopted. The requests by Governments for these activities continue to increase because many States, in particular developing States and States in transition, have initiated ambitious programmes to modernize their laws on trade and because Commission texts are an essential element of those programmes;

(c) Coordination of activities of the numerous organizations that are preparing texts on international trade law (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (a));

(d) The project entitled "Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts (CLOUT)" which consists of (i) collecting, in cooperation with national correspondents appointed by Governments, court and arbitral decisions on conventions and model laws of the Commission; (ii) preparing abstracts of those decisions; (iii) publishing the abstracts in the languages of the Organization; (iv) maintaining efficient dissemination channels for the abstracts and decisions; and (v) preparing, as appropriate, comments, indices or thesauri on the decisions.

Expected accomplishments

8.97 In the biennium 2000–2001, the expected accomplishments of this subprogramme would be: legislative decisions by Member States that are based on internationally harmonized legislative texts; policy decisions by intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations that take into account views of, and texts prepared by, the Commission; use of non-legislative Commission texts (model contracts, legal guides) by merchants and by their associations; and increased legal certainty in international commerce and lower cost of conducting international business; increased use in legislative work of internationally harmonized legislative instruments on international commerce; increased use by merchants of model contracts and legal guides in the conduct of commerce; improved technical capacity of ministry officials, merchants and their associations, judges, arbitrators and academics, in particular in developing countries, in the use of international trade law; and increased use of Commission texts and preparatory studies in university teachings.

Outputs

8.98 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to the General Assembly

a. Substantive servicing

i. Meetings of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (3 per year);

ii. Meetings of the Commission (30 per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation

i. *Official Records of the General Assembly* (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 10);

ii. Up to 12 reports to the Commission by its intergovernmental working groups; 8 substantive reports on various subjects to be discussed by the Commission as requested by it; a report each year on the following: training and assistance, status and promotion of Commission texts, bibliography of books and articles relating to

the work of the Commission; and up to 40 conference room papers prepared during the two sessions of the Commission (mandate: annual decisions by the Commission);

(ii) Working Group on Electronic Commerce

a. Substantive servicing. Sixty-four meetings of the Working Group;

b. Parliamentary documentation. Four substantive reports to be prepared in response to the request of the Working Group; and up to 30 conference room papers on topics considered by the Working Group;

(iii) Working Group on International Contract Practices

a. Substantive servicing. Sixty-four meetings of the Working Group;

b. Parliamentary documentation. Four substantive reports to be prepared in response to the request of the Working Group; and up to 30 conference room papers on topics considered by the Working Group;

(iv) Working Group on trade legislation

a. Substantive servicing. Sixty-four meetings of the Working Group;

b. Parliamentary documentation. Four substantive reports to be prepared in response to the request of the Working Group; and up to 30 conference room papers on topics considered by the Working Group;

(b) *Other services provided*

Ad hoc expert group meetings and related preparatory work

(i) Up to 48 ad hoc expert group meetings to consider documents to be submitted to the Commission and its working groups;

(ii) Preparation of substantive documentation to be considered by the ad hoc expert groups (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 11);

(c) *Other substantive activities outputs*

(i) Maintenance of the system for collecting court and arbitral decisions on Commission texts ("Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts (CLOUT)"). Publication of abstracts of those decisions and monitoring of developments and trends in court and arbitration practice (600 court and arbitration cases) (General Assembly resolutions 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (d); 49/55 and 50/47 and A/43/17, paras. 98–109);

(ii) Recurrent publications. *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, volume XXX, 1999 and volume XXXI, 2000 (General Assembly resolution 2502 (XXIV), paras. 8 and 9 and A/7618, paras. 161–167);

(iii) Printing of non-recurrent publications (in 2001) not completed by the Working Groups and the Commission during the biennium 2000–2001;

a. Booklet on a United Nations convention on assignment in trade receivables (based on a General Assembly resolution to be adopted pursuant to the finalization of the convention and on A/50/17, paras. 374–381);

b. Uniform rules on the legal aspects of electronic commerce (A/51/17, paras. 209 and 216–224);

c. Legislative guide on private financing of public infrastructure projects (based on a General Assembly resolution to be adopted pursuant to the finalization of the guide and A/51/17, paras. 225–230);

(iv) Lectures. Lectures to groups of practitioners, academics and law students in Vienna as well as in other places as part of programmes organized by other professional, academic, non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations (approximately 24 times per year) (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (e));

(v) Special events. Participation as co-organizers and moderators in the annual "Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot" in Vienna (A/51/17, paras. 271 and 272);

(vi) Technical material for outside users (CLOUT database). Presentation of court and arbitral decisions under the information system CLOUT in the form of an electronic database, in the six official languages of the General Assembly, on the Internet that can be searched according to parameters such as the article of the convention, key-words, country of origin, type of decision, year, etc. (A/51/17, para. 247);

(d) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*. Participation by officials of the Branch in approximately 50 meetings of intergovernmental bodies inside and outside the United Nations system in order to carry out the mandate of the Commission to coordinate activities of organizations preparing texts on international trade law (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (a), and repeatedly reconfirmed by the Assembly);

(e) *Conference services*

Library services. Acquisition for and servicing of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Law Library. The Library is administratively an integral part of the International Trade Law Branch. While its acquisitions and servicing policy are based on the needs of the subprogramme, it also services visiting scholars and ministry officials from various regions of the world, as well as the entire international community at the Vienna International Centre and the business, legal and academic community in Vienna;

(f) *Technical cooperation*

(i) Up to 35 missions, especially to developing countries and countries in transition to brief government officials on Commission texts, to assist in preparing legislation based on legislative texts of the Commission and to advise in the implementation of non-legislative Commission texts;

(ii) Up to 30 seminars on Commission texts to promote the work of the Commission (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, paras. 8 (b), (c), (d), (e)).

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.99 Estimated requirements of $2,919,100 would provide for the continuation of 10 posts in the Professional category and above and 7 General Service posts.

Other staff costs

8.100 A provision of $1,700, reflecting a decrease of $6,000, would cover overtime requirements. The decrease is based on past expenditure patterns.

Consultants and experts

8.101 The estimated requirements of $158,700, at maintenance level, would provide for consultancy services in connection with reports in the areas of security interests and investment-related legislation, use of electronic commerce with respect to electronic contracting, trade legislation, transport documentation in maritime carriage of goods and its relation to security interests and banking and common principles of national insolvency laws, as well as for the upgrading of databases, the installation of search engines on the

Commission home page ($76,000) and for six ad hoc expert group meetings on electronic commerce, international contract practices and privately financed infrastructure projects ($82,700).

Travel

8.102 Estimated requirements of $72,700, at maintenance level, would provide for participation at meetings of other organizations that relate directly to the work of the Commission.

General operating expenses

8.103 The estimate of $53,100, includes a growth of $33,900 to meet the costs of maintenance of office automation equipment following changes introduced by the United Nations Office at Vienna administration assigning such costs to user departments and offices.

Supplies and materials

8.104 The provision of $115,100 would cover the cost of library books and materials, which serve as a resource to the secretariat and members of the Commission. This provision represents a transfer of resources from an account administered by the United Nations Office at Vienna administration under its sub-section of the programme budget in previous bienniums.

Furniture and equipment

8.105 The estimate of $23,900, at maintenance level, would cover the cost of replacing personal computers, one laserjet network printer and one scanner, as well as the cost of purchasing software.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Table 8.18 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	4 209.4	5 488.4	37.6	0.6	5 526.0	310.7	5 836.7
Other staff costs	311.7	225.8	(158.4)	(70.1)	67.4	3.3	70.7
Consultants and experts	32.0	53.3	6.5	12.1	59.8	3.0	62.8
Contractual services	1 286.8	1 602.1	617.3	38.5	2 219.4	107.8	2 327.2
General operating expenses	108.9	86.4	39.6	45.8	126.0	6.0	132.0
Supplies and materials	10.8	–	–	–	–	–	–
Furniture and equipment	757.4	106.4	(47.0)	(44.1)	59.4	3.0	62.4
Total	**6 717.0**	**7 562.4**	**495.6**	**6.5**	**8 058.0**	**433.8**	**8 491.8**

Table 8.19 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Treaty Section

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-4/3	8	9	–	–	–	–	8	9
P-2/1	5	4	–	–	–	–	5	4
Total	**14**	**14**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**14**	**14**
General Service category								
Principal level	11	11	–	–	–	–	11	11
Other levels	11	11	–	–	–	–	11	11
Total	**22**	**22**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**22**	**22**
Grand total	**36**	**36**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**36**	**36**

8.106 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Treaty Section.

8.107 The objectives, activities and expected accomplishments described below relate to the Secretariat's responsibilities under Article 102 of the Charter, the Secretary-General's responsibilities as depositary of multilateral treaties and the related responsibility to provide advice and assistance on treaty law matters, thus advancing the objectives of open diplomacy and the strengthening of the rule of law at the international level.

8.108 During the biennium, the focus, in addition to maintaining and improving the services provided at present, including advice and assistance on treaty law matters, will be on:

(a) Continuing to reduce the backlog in the United Nations *Treaty Series* at a rapid rate. This would result in a further increase in the annual production of the United Nations *Treaty Series* from 140 to 150 volumes per annum, a production rate that will result in additional printing costs over the biennium, but an anticipated reduction of these costs by approximately 60 per cent in the following biennium;

(b) Further reducing the time lag between receipt of instruments for registration and their publication in the United Nations *Treaty Series* from four to five years at present to one year during the biennium 2000–2001;

(c) Further improving the high-level access to the United Nations treaty collection on the electronic medium, including on the Internet, while maintaining the hard copy publication;

(d) Implementing and enhancing the new database (put in place in 1997–1998) and producing the United Nations *Treaty Series* in an integrated electronic format. This will be done through scanning and using optical character recognition of new instruments received, entering data electronically and compiling and formatting mandated publications using a desktop publishing package, while, in the process, substantially eliminating external typesetting costs in the course of the year 2001;

(e) Making parts of the new database directly available on the Internet;

(f) Maintaining the high level of service relating to the publication *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, in print and on the Internet, and of service relating to registration and publication responsibilities.

8.109 The expansion of the international community and the increase in international legislative activity in recent years has contributed to a significant increase in the number of treaties and treaty-related actions as more and more countries have sought to participate in existing multilateral agreements or have entered into treaties among themselves. Assistance, including informal requests and formal inquiries from foreign offices, missions, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and other entities, has also been sought with regard to treaty law-related matters more frequently. The Section has had to initiate an ever-growing range of contacts. All this has contributed to a significant increase in workload.

8.110 The Section has implemented a multifaceted approach to address the historical backlog, particularly in response to the expressed wishes of the Member States (see General Assembly resolutions 51/158 and 52/153), including new management techniques and comprehensive computerization. The primary aim of this approach was to implement a rational system to allow for the timely registration of treaties which, in turn, will permit the timely publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*. This approach envisaged, subject to the other areas of the Organization discharging their responsibilities in a timely manner, the elimination of the backlog in the production of the United Nations *Treaty Series* in approximately three years, the elimination of the backlog in the *Monthly Statement of Treaties* within a shorter period and the reduction of the backlog in the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* within a three-year period.

8.111 The backlog in the issuance of the *Monthly Statement of Treaties* has now been effectively eliminated and the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* will catch up with the published volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series* in 1999.

8.112 The Treaty Section now has a system that would enable it to scan or convert to text format, using optical character recognition, all documents received in the Section (treaties, subsequent actions, ratifications, reservations, declarations etc.) and store this information in the database. The decision to scan or to use optical character recognition will be made as soon as a document is received and will primarily depend on the quality of the document. Documents in English and French would, in most instances, be converted to text format using optical character recognition as this would enable them to be retrieved through a text search, including via the Internet. The Section possesses the technical capability to employ both methods. The new database is also equipped to handle documents submitted in electronic format, such as by diskette or e-mail. Electronic submission of documents will result in significant savings of time, staff and financial resources.

8.113 In the majority of cases, documents received will be analysed, information verified and data input simultaneously. On the completion of registration formalities, including necessary legal reviews, the Section will be able to place registered treaties on the Internet in their original languages. However, placing the translated versions on the Internet will require more time.

8.114 Once the necessary legal verifications are completed and the data input, the database is capable of producing most of the Section's output without further significant involvement of staff. There will be no need for the current practice of repetitive entries for the different publications of the Section and for repetitive verifications. Information, once analysed, verified and fed into the system, will automatically flow into the different publications.

8.115 The new developments relate to the production through the database of:

(a) All routine information circulars (but those requiring detailed legal analysis and translation will continue to be handled in the traditional manner);

(b) Information facsimiles to other international bodies;

(c) Daily United Nations *Journal* entries;

(d) The *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General, Status as at December (year)*. Entries will be produced automatically, excepts texts for which further software enhancement is required (e.g. reservations, declarations, etc.). The document is currently available on the Internet and will be updated on a daily basis in a more user-friendly manner than at present;

(e) The *Monthly Statement of Treaties and International Agreements Registered or Filed and Recorded with the Secretariat*, which is already being produced automatically by the new database and will reflect the entries for each month;

(f) Certificates of registration;

(g) United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index*. After *Cumulative Index* 25, this document will be produced by the new database using a desktop format and will keep pace with the production of the United Nations *Treaty Series*;

(h) The United Nations *Treaty Series*. This document will now be substantially produced through the new database, but will continue to require a degree of manual work. Treaties in relation to which data was entered into the new database from May 1998 are being compiled, using a desktop publishing package, after being electronically stored through scanning or through the use of optical character recognition. The result will be a substantial saving in typesetting costs, which will be reflected in the year 2001. Desktop publishing will need further refinement.

8.116 The Treaty Section will be extensively reorganized to work with the new database. The two key functions of the Section will be data analysis, review and input, including legal analysis, and subsequent publication. Staff will have to be reassigned to meet these key needs. They are being gradually trained in using the new database. Some staff will receive specialized training in critical functions of the new system. Such a reorganization of work is expected to result in staff savings in the medium term.

8.117 Using the potential of the new database, the Section also plans to place *Circular Notifications* and United Nations *Journal* entries on the Internet. The *Monthly Statement of Treaties* and the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* could also be made available to the public through CD-ROM and the Internet. These developments, however, require further software enhancements to the database. Other innovations continue to be put in place. Registering parties continue to be encouraged to submit documentation in electronic format which could then be processed more efficaciously, resulting in a shorter lead time for registration and publication. The Section continues to convert the printed United Nations *Treaty Series* volumes into Internet format through scanning and/or diskettes. Over 250 additional volumes will be added to the United Nations treaty collection on the Internet during the biennium 1998–1999 and over 300 during the biennium 2000–2001.

United Nations system and others; maintenance of an up-to-date and easily accessible record (including on the electronic medium) of all actions relating to the depositary functions; and high-quality and timely advice and assistance to foreign offices, permanent missions to the United Nations, organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations on a wide range of legal and technical issues related to treaty matters.

Outputs

8.121 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Substantive activities*

(i) Registration of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter. Analysis, registration and processing of approximately 5,000 new treaties and international agreements and subsequent actions relating to more than 40,000 treaties and international agreements already registered or filed and recorded with the Secretariat; and provision of advice, assistance and information on the status of registered treaties, including through the Internet;

(ii) Publication of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter. Publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*, including legal analysis;

(iii) Depositary functions

a. Custody of over 500 multilateral treaties and related instruments; processing, recording and notifying Member States and/or participating Governments and international organizations of approximately 3,600 formalities consisting of approximately over 2,700 actions and 900 depositary notifications; provision of advice, assistance and information on the status of multilateral treaties; establishment of certified true copies of multilateral treaties; and the rectification of instruments, as required;

b. Updating, on a regular basis, the information provided on the electronic medium, including the Internet;

c. Updating the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties*;

(iv) Indexation. After the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* 25 in 1999 (covering up to volume 1454 of the United Nations *Treaty Series*), the *Cumulative Index* will be produced automatically from the new database;

(v) General legal advice and services. Provision of legal advice on all aspects of treaty law and depositary, registration and publication practice to Governments, intergovernmental organizations, units of the Secretariat and other entities; and preparation of papers and other material for delivery at learned gatherings;

(b) *Specific outputs*

(i) *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General, Status as at 31 December 2000* (ST/LEG/SER.E/16) and *Status as at 31 December 2001* (ST/LEG/SER.E/17); and preparation of the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties*;

(ii) Twenty-four bilingual issues (English/French) of the *Monthly Statement of Treaties and International Agreements Registered or Filed and Recorded with the Secretariat* (ST/LEG/SER.A...);

(iii) Typesetting, during the biennium 2000–2001, of 176 volumes and printing, during the biennium 2000–2001, of 300 volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series*. The increase over the previous biennium reflects the final phase of the work programme designed to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*;

(iv) Preparation of 300 printed volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series* for dissemination on the electronic medium, including on the Internet;

(v) Preparation of 10 internally compiled and typeset volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index*, covering volumes 1500–1800 of the United Nations *Treaty Series*; and preparation of a CD-ROM version of the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index*.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.122 Estimated requirements of $5,526,000 would provide for the continuation of posts in the Professional category and above and 22 General Service posts, including growth of $37,600 in respect of the proposed reclassification of one P-2 post to the P-3 level. This would allow for application of established personnel policies concerning language posts.

Other staff costs

8.123 An estimate of $67,400, reflecting a reduction of $158,400, is proposed for temporary assistance to maintain the database and overtime requirements to supervise the transfer of files to the electronic medium. The reduction is due to the reduction of backlog and the consequent completion of data clearing in the newly converted database.

Consultants and experts

8.124 A provision of $59,800, reflecting a growth of $6,500, is proposed to cover the cost of consultant services in connection with the conversion of Treaty Section publications to CD-ROM and for specialized work on treaty maps.

Contractual services

8.125 The estimated requirements of $2,219,400, reflecting a growth of $617,300, would bring the *Treaty Series* up to date by the end of the biennium and relate to external printing costs of 300 volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series*, 12 volumes of the *Treaty Series Cumulative Index*, external binding of 2 volumes of the *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General* ($2,155,900) and for acquisition and rental of software necessary to run the program for the *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General* ($63,500).

General operating expenses

8.126 The estimated requirements of $126,000, including a growth of $39,600, relate to: (a) $63,000 for the office's share of the maintenance and support of the LAN technical infrastructure (including central servers) necessary for the support of central management services such as electronic mail and UNIX for IMIS; and (b) $63,000 for maintenance of office automation equipment, including personal computers, two servers, one optical disk jukebox and one scanner that have been acquired.

Furniture and equipment

8.127 Estimated requirements of $59,400, including a decrease of $47,000 resulting from significant purchases made during the biennium 1998–1999, are proposed for the acquisition and replacement of office automation equipment and software necessary to run the United Nations Treaty Information System/LAN workflow system and for the purchase of a new fireproof safe and a cabinet for storage of maps.

C. Programme support

Table 8.20 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	1996-1997 expenditures	1998-1999 appropriations	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	2000-2001 estimates
			Amount	Percentage			
Posts	960.6	1 091.0	–	–	1 091.0	64.0	1 155.0
Other staff costs	9.2	112.4	(15.5)	(13.7)	96.9	4.7	101.6
General operating expenses	37.6	137.6	(1.9)	(1.3)	135.7	6.6	142.3
Supplies and materials	4.3	57.7	(9.0)	(15.5)	48.7	2.4	51.1
Furniture and equipment	15.1	16.0	(3.0)	(18.7)	13.0	0.6	13.6
Total	**1 026.8**	**1 414.7**	**(29.4)**	**(2.0)**	**1 385.3**	**78.3**	**1 463.6**

Table 8.21 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Executive Office

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001	1998-1999	2000-2001
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-4/3	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Total	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**
General Service category								
Other level	4	4	–	–	–	–	4	4
Total	**4**	**4**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**4**	**4**
Grand total	**7**	**7**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**7**

8.128 The Executive Office provides services to the Office of Legal Affairs in connection with personnel, budgetary and financial administration, resource planning and use of common services, together with administrative support to policy-making organs and other international meetings, as required.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

8.129 The estimated requirements of $1,091,000 would provide for the continuation of three Professional posts, two for administrative posts and one for a computer analyst, and four General Service posts.

Other staff costs

8.130 The resources of $96,900, reflecting a reduction of $15,500, would provide for the temporary replacement, of staff on extended sick leave or maternity leave and additional staff during periods of peak workload, primarily for the Office of the Legal Counsel and the Executive Office ($93,500); and for overtime during periods of peak workload and unforeseen emergencies, as well as coverage of meetings ($3,400).

General operating expenses

8.131 A provision of $135,700, including a decrease of $1,900, would cover the cost of electronic mail, long distance telephone and facsimile charges and other communications requirements of the Office of Legal Affairs ($127,300), as well as provide for maintenance of office automation equipment ($8,400) of the Executive Office.

Supplies and materials

8.132 The estimated requirements of $48,700, including a reduction of $9,000, relate to expendable office supplies and materials, particularly electronic data-processing supplies for the Office of Legal Affairs as a whole.

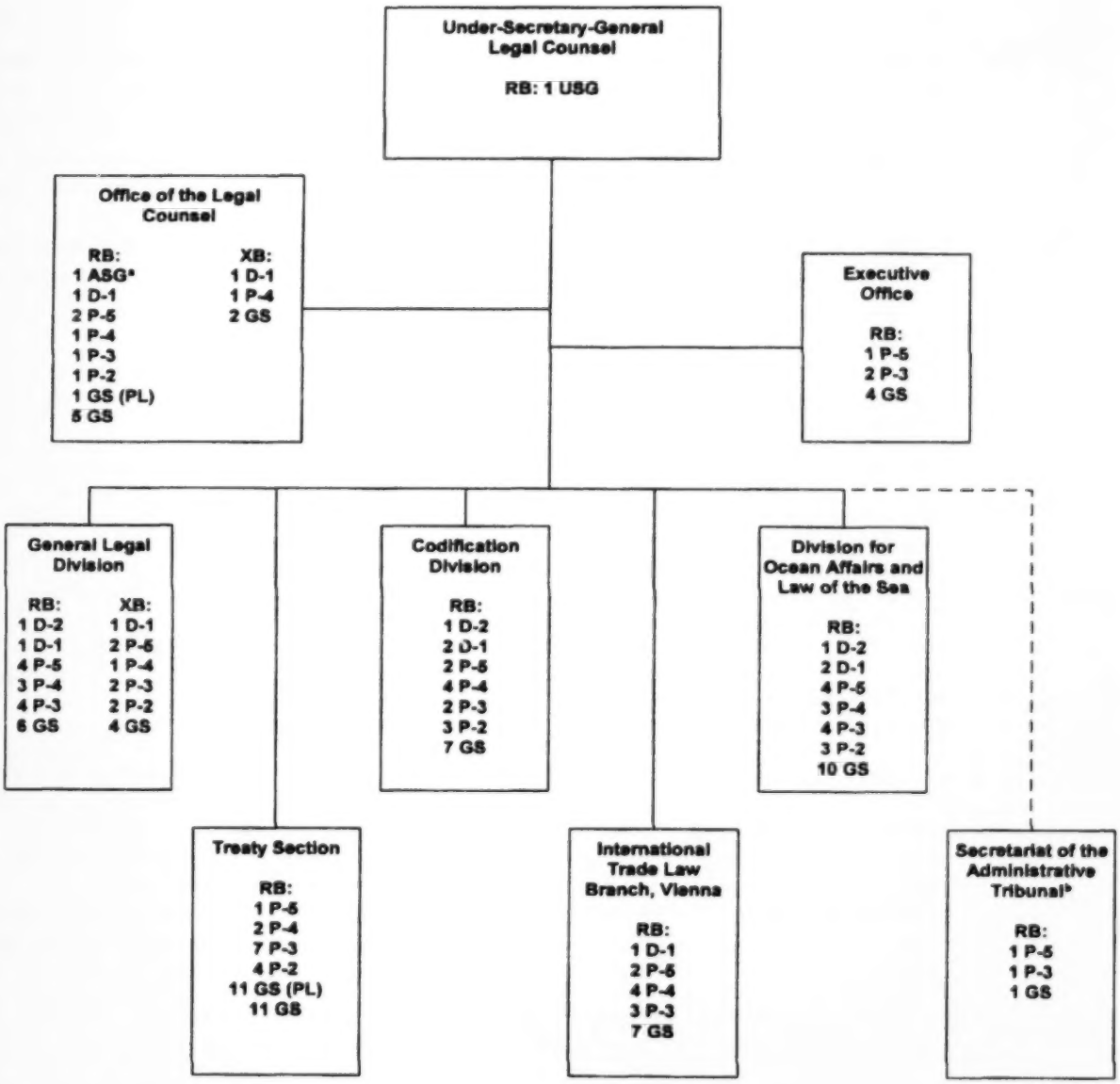
Furniture and equipment

8.133 An estimate of $13,000, reflecting a reduction of $3,000, is proposed for the purchase of new electronic data-processing equipment and the replacement of office automation equipment for the Executive Office.

Table 8.22 **Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the internal and external oversight bodies and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/7, Chap. II, Part III)	
The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions reiterated its earlier recommendation that a review of the adequacy of reimbursements from extrabudgetary activities should be carried out. The Committee also indicated that subscribers such as law firms and libraries should pay for the *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law* (para. III.22).	A review of all reimbursements for support of extrabudgetary administrative structures has been under way by the United Nations administration with UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA since 1996. This concerns a number of areas of operation of the Secretariat in addition to the Office of Legal Affairs. While substantial progress had been achieved towards agreement between the parties, a final settlement has yet to be arrived at. On 29 September 1997, a letter was sent to approximately 100 recipients (law firms, libraries and individuals) informing them that starting with the 1996 issue, the *Yearbook* would no longer be made available free of charge and that they should contact the United Nations Sales Section in New York or Geneva should they wish to purchase the *Yearbook*.

The Office of Legal Affairs
Proposed organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2000-2001



[a] Also Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General.

[b] In substantive matters, the secretariat (Executive Secretary) is exclusively responsible to the Administrative Tribunal.